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# FM CONNECT

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## CELEBRATING LEADERSHIP & EXCELLENCE

### NIRUPA SHANKAR NAMED REAL ESTATE ICON OF THE YEAR

We are proud to announce that Nirupa Shankar has been recognized as the Real Estate Icon of the Year at the Economic Business Awards 2025. This prestigious honour is a testament to her unwavering commitment to business excellence, innovation, and creating a lasting impact in the industry.



### VINEET VERMA RECEIVES IRE EXCELLENCE AWARD AT GIBS

Our Managing Director, Vineet Verma, was honoured with the IRE (Innovation, Research & Entrepreneurship) Excellence Award by the Global Institute of Business Studies. The award was presented by Olympic medallist, Padma Bhushan and Arjuna Awardee, Ms. Saina Nehwal, at a distinguished event that also featured former Indian cricketer Mr. Syed Kirmani, among other notable dignitaries. This recognition highlights his visionary leadership and dedication to transformative growth.



## REFLECTIONS ON MOTHERHOOD, LEADERSHIP, AND SERVICE: A MOTHER'S DAY CONVERSATION WITH DR. NIRMALA PADMANABHAN

On the special occasion of Mother's Day, I had the honour of engaging in a deeply meaningful conversation with Dr. Nirmala Padmanabhan—an academic, social entrepreneur and a compassionate changemaker. She is an expert in Gender Economics, Environmental Studies, Budget Analysis and Entrepreneurship Development and a Key contributor to the Government of Kerala's 14th Five-Year Plan on Gender and Development. She is also a consultant to KPMG India and the World Bank on responsive waste management.

Dr. Nirmala Padmanabhan currently serves as Dean of Extension and Incubation, St. Teresa's College, Ernakulam. Director, TBIC – Teresian Innovation and Business Incubation Council and a Promoter Director, BhuME Women's Collective Pvt Ltd

### On Motherhood: The Unseen Strength

"Being a mother means choosing faith over fear, responsibility over rest, and values over vanity." Dr. Padmanabhan reflected, "Mothers don't just raise children; they build futures. A mother's work is foundational," while mentioning Jeejamata and Veer Shivaji Maharaj.

She shared a powerful personal story of her own. Despite being a teacher, she had to learn afresh to educate her son better. No accolades, no spotlight, just silent, selfless strength. A reminder that motherhood often goes unrecognised.

She emphasised that mothers cope not with ease, but with

- Faith in God
- Support from family, society, and community
- And by practising values-based parenting, teaching not through lectures but through example

### Advice to Young Mothers

In today's fast-paced world, many young mothers feel overwhelmed, judged, and conflicted. Dr. Padmanabhan offers a grounded perspective:

- You are not alone—lean on your support systems.
- Your outcomes don't define your worth—each child, each situation is unique.
- Make conscious choices that align with your values, not external pressure.
- Balance is not about perfection—it's about intentional living.

Beyond her reflections, Dr. Padmanabhan's initiatives



*Sitanshu Shekhar Singhdeo, VP Operations  
- Facility Management*

have been nationally recognised. She is an inspiring social entrepreneur, championing the cause of marginalised and specially abled women. With the support of the Cochin City Mayor Mr. Anil Kumar, she led an initiative to upcycle tailoring excess into soft toys, fridge magnets, mats for pets, laptop sleeves, mementoes, empowering women with dignity and purpose. This effort was even recognised by Honourable Prime Minister Modi ji in Mann Ki Baat (March 2021).

### On Women in the IT Industry

As part of her PhD program and research on equal opportunities for women in the IT industry, she strongly advocates for work-life balance. When discussing equality, women must be given choices. These choices should align with their natural tendencies and strengths, rather than being imposed from outside.

### On Leadership & Empowerment

Her professional journey mirrors her philosophy: nurture with strength, and lead with compassion. Whether mentoring students, leading teams, or empowering women through enterprise, Dr. Padmanabhan embodies collaborative leadership. Her message is clear:

"Motherhood and leadership are not separate identities. They inform, enrich, and strengthen each other." She is proof that motherhood and leadership can walk hand in hand, transforming not just families, but entire communities.

Life doesn't come with instructions; it comes with a mother.



# SUMMER UNPLUGGED: EXPERIENCES THAT LIT UP THE CAMPUSES

## POPSICLE POP-UP TO BEAT THE HEAT

There's nothing quite like a popsicle to beat the heat, and that's exactly how we chose to Celebrate Summer! With sunny skies above and icy treats in hand, we cooled down the afternoon with a burst of fruity fun. From tangy mango to berry-filled bites, every flavour came with a smile. It was one of those simple joys that reminded us: summer's best when it's chilled and shared.



## LAUGH RIOTS WITH CORPORATE BABAJI

Wrapping up May on a high note, Anmol Garg a.k.a. Corporate Babaji brought the house down with his signature corporate comedy.

The Hive's Ballroom 1 & 2 echoed with laughter as teams came together for an hour of witty takes on work-life, deadlines, and everything in between. Easily the funniest meeting of the month!



## WORLD NO TOBACCO DAY

World No Tobacco Day was marked with a bold and creative message as the team put together a unique awareness program that struck a chord with the tenant community.

Held in the shared spaces of the campus, the event featured an eye-catching street play performance that creatively brought to life the dangers of tobacco use. One of the highlights was a powerful face-off between a walking cigarette (played by a staff member) and the ominous Yama – the King of Death – symbolizing the fatal consequences of smoking and tobacco addiction.

The dramatic visuals and strong messaging made the crowd pause and reflect. Following the performance, an interactive session invited tenants to engage in open conversations about the risks of tobacco use, share personal stories, and learn about support available for quitting.

The team also distributed health tips, fact sheets, and pledge cards, encouraging attendees to take a step towards a tobacco-free life. It was a meaningful reminder — delivered in a way that was both impactful and thought-provoking.





## SPOTLIGHT OF THE MONTH

### TURNING PAGES, TURNING LIFE: THE MAGIC OF REDISCOVERING BOOKS

"I read, I travel, I become" – Derek Wallcot

It is interesting that humans constantly seek out new travel destinations inside of another magnum opus travel called 'the journey of life'. Like the wise say, travel is the only constant in life. While destinations and circumstances may shift, the journey itself remains a fundamental aspect of human existence. It is said that even our scriptures have travelled an extensive journey from the ancient ages to the present times largely through two means – one by knowledge transfer through tutoring and further by written scriptures on papyrus and parchments to now books. The art of reading has been in practice from time immemorial and continues to be one amongst the dwindling book-reading community.

Reading a book, I believe, is like dreaming with open eyes. In the last few years of my life, I have inadvertently progressed from being an uninterested reader to now an avid reader of 'print on paper'. My newfound love for reading started when I traversed the 40-years milestone of my life. Since then, books have become a new way of life.

The newfound habit has bestowed on me a much-needed quiet time in an otherwise fast and restless world. Reading, I believe, is therapeutic and brings in a certain coherence between the mind and the body. I was initiated into reading fortuitously by a friend who gifted a book to me on a fine New Year's Day morning. The book was titled "Tuesdays with Morrie" written by Mitch Albom, a renowned American author, journalist, and musician.

I will not lie for a fact that I found it arduous to initiate the reading process. But then there sure was a strange sense of attraction for the new year gift and I gradually began reading the book, one page a day. Within a few days, I was able to form a healthy bond with the book and I have never looked back since, for books have now become my closest friend. It has been a world of change for me personally when I see the shift from being a passive reader devoid of any interest whatsoever to now enjoying a healthy appetite and interest for books. I feel I was destined for a lifelong romance with books or should I say that I'm now book-ed (sic) for life.

A few books, in no specific order of preference, that have travelled with me on my reading journey are - Who Moved My Cheese, Jonathan Livingston Seagull, Vital Lies-Simple Truths, The Alchemist, Autobiography of a Yogi, Awaken the Giant Within, Keep Sharp, Happy Money, The Prophet, Man's Search For Meaning, When Breath Becomes Air, Thinking-Fast & Slow and many more.

I believe that each one of us creates our own likes and dislikes as we grow and mature in our respective life journeys, but I do believe that it is never too late to form a loving bond with books in an otherwise fidgety world that craves the fear of missing out on new and never-ending enticing contents of the digital universe. The finest gift we can give our next generation is to introduce them to the world of books, outside of the formulaic academic literature they consume. Amar Chitra Katha series, Panchatantra, books written by Enid Blyton or a Science Encyclopedia will endow a good start to a child's reading journey, and they will naturally develop a healthy taste for books thereafter. Trust me, this habit will help them enhance their confidence levels, strengthen their socio-emotional skills, and thus create more healthy young minds in the days and years to come.

So going back to the quote I started with, a healthy mind will soon realize and understand the fact that – "I read, I travel, I become"!

Happy reading!



**Sathish Govindan**  
Manhattan  
Brigade Tech Gardens

## BINTI CENTRE DIRECTOR KLAY PRESCHOOLS AND DAYCARE

### You Don't Have to Do It Alone – And You Never Have to at KLAY!

Mother's Day may have come and gone, but at KLAY, we continue to celebrate the everyday heroes — and the village that supports them. Because motherhood was never meant to be a solo act. It's a shared journey, made lighter by care, community, and small acts of kindness that add up — a helping hand at drop-off, a smile at pick-up, a warm meal, a quiet moment. At KLAY, we're here to be part of that village. To remind every parent that support isn't seasonal. That together, we make the juggle a little easier, the days a little brighter, and the journey a lot more joyful. We captured this spirit in a short Mother's Day film — a gentle reminder that you've got this, and you've got us - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SBaVSgP977Y>



## VOICES THAT INSPIRE: A NOTE OF APPRECIATION

Dear Team,

I would like to express my appreciation for the wonderful environment created by team WTC Kochi. It is clear that a lot of thought and effort has gone into making this a positive, and welcoming place for all.

The thoughtful blend of wellness activities, health initiatives, and entertainment opportunities has brought a refreshing energy to our workdays and made our time at WTC Kochi more enjoyable.

From the moment we enter the building, the welcoming atmosphere is felt immediately-whether it's the friendly and professional demeanour of the security staff or the attention to detail in the overall building function. Thank you, Pradeep and the entire team, for your commitment and exceptional service. Keep up the amazing work-It's deeply appreciated!!!

**Rechana Krishnan**  
HR Manager  
NOA Infosolutions

## CELEBRATING WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY WITH PURPOSE & GREEN PASSION

Our commitment to sustainability goes beyond words. On World Environment Day, we came together to reaffirm this ethos through a series of engaging green initiatives. From planting saplings and distributing eco-friendly kits to hosting awareness sessions on responsible living and waste management, the day was packed with activities that inspired action. Employees, partners, and community members joined hands to make a collective impact, echoing this year's theme of restoring our ecosystems.

Together, we're not just building landmarks, we're nurturing a greener, healthier tomorrow.





## CELEBRATING EXCELLENCE AT THE WORKPLACE: WTCEIA AWARDS 2025

In a grand celebration of dedication, innovation, and teamwork, the Workplace Team Champions Excellence & Innovation Awards (WTCEIA) once again took centre stage as an annual tribute to the champions of the facility management vertical.

This prestigious awards ceremony is a platform to recognize individuals and teams who go above and beyond to drive operational brilliance, foster a culture of innovation, and exemplify true team spirit. The event proudly honoured achievers across five standout categories including

Pinnacle | Visionary | Best Squad | Game Changer | Spot Recognitions

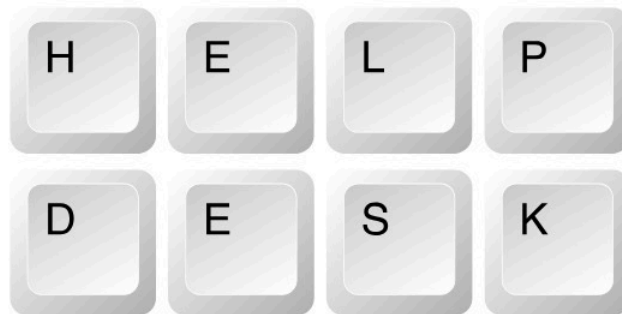


## THAT'S A WRAP!

Thanks for flipping through till the end. We loved bringing these stories and updates your way, and we hope they added a spark to your day. Until the next issue lands in your inbox, take care, stay curious, and don't forget to share a little kindness around.

See you soon!

## We've Made Support Effortless



is live

For all FM support and services,  
email us

**[here2help@brigadegroup.com](mailto:here2help@brigadegroup.com)**